

POINT 3

THE TOC H MAGAZINE

AUGUST 2002



TOC H

Bringing people together

Toc H at the Jubilee

'I enjoyed very much to be there and will never forget that day' said Ursula, a member from Germany. She was one of a team of 33 members and volunteers who played a small, but valuable, part on June 4th. The team, conspicuous in Toc H tabards, worked hard behind the scenes to help organise this memorable occasion. On such a day of patriotic fervour, it was true to Toc H's best traditions that the team included German and Japanese volunteers.

There were various 'parades' down The Mall, as those who watched the event live, or on TV, will have seen. One of these was the 'Services' Parade, with contingents from the Police, Fire Service, Guides, St John Ambulance and many others. The Toc H team was attached to this parade and carried out a variety of functions. Based in the streets near Central Hall, Westminster, some helped the parade line up, some acted as advisers to paraders and public alike, some organised coach and trailer parking and so on. One prized

moment was when Jack Turner firmly sent a police van on its way, telling the driver that he couldn't park just there! From 8-0 a.m. until 6-0 p.m. there was hardly a break.

As so often happens, the priorities changed during the day to meet changing needs. Over the lunch period many of the team helped the WRVS with the distribution of thousands of lunch packs and then suddenly became very popular as water carriers. The marchers spent a long time standing in formation awaiting the start - a start much delayed - and many urgently needed a drink. The Toc H team responded.

Later in the day, when it became clear there were hundreds of excess lunch packs, the team helped distributing these to passing families on their return from the Mall.

As Chris Stoneham put it 'Although we did not see the Queen, we felt we had done a good job, which was sincerely



appreciated by all concerned'. The organiser of the parades later wrote 'Thank you and all of your fantastic volunteers for the outstanding work you did on June 4th. The day was an outstanding success and we could not have coped as well as we did without your kind and unselfish support and efforts. The stage manager of the Service Parade was so grateful for all of the professional and unrelenting efforts your team gave to assist her in a very difficult job of forming up all those vehicles and people in the parade'.

CARRYING THE BATON



Jeffrey Jarvis, of Melton Mowbray Friendship Branch, carried the Queens Jubilee Baton on its way through Melton. Jeffrey, who is a Special Olympian, ran a 440 yard stint, and was applauded by many of his friends at the roadside. Point 3 featured Jeffrey back in December 1999 when he represented England in the World Table Tennis championships for people with learning difficulties.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Muslims at the Old House

New Editor for Point 3

Royal Charter changes agreed

World Cup 'Danceathon'

Toc H

Toc H is committed to building a fairer society by working with communities to promote friendship and service, confront prejudice and practise reconciliation.

Toc H is about people. Founded in 1915, Toc H works to break down barriers between people by challenging their prejudices about others and the divisions which exist in society. Its work is based on Christian principles, and people of all faiths, and of none, are welcomed.

Toc H works with people from all walks of life, tackling social problems, such as loneliness and deprivation, through an approach which emphasises self-help, and encourages people to accept responsibility for themselves and their local community. Toc H uses the model of the compass to offer four personal challenges which are the inspiration for its members.

Toc H is a registered charity No 211042.



COUNCIL SAYS YES TO NEW ROYAL CHARTER

For over 80 years Toc H has been governed by a representative 'Central Council' with each councillor being elected by a local constituency. In future Toc H will be governed by a small National Management Committee. Between 6 and 9 members of this will be elected on a nationwide basis, with every member having a vote. In addition, the NMC may coopt up to four extra members who may bring in special expertise. NMC members will serve for a three-year term, a third retiring each year - and no-one may serve more than six years continuously.

Until November the existing Central Executive Committee will act as the National Management Committee. The first elections for the new NMC will take place in the Autumn and will be conducted by the Electoral Reform Society. It is planned that the results will be available at the first of the new style 'Annual General Meetings'. This is the first week-end in November, and replaces the Central Council weekend. All members are free to attend. Any

NEW EDITOR FOR POINT 3

See the article on page 6.

The Four Points of the Compass are:

1. Friendship - 'To Love Widely' - to welcome all in friendship,
2. Service - 'To Build Bravely' - to give personal service.
3. Fairmindedness - 'To Think Fairly' - to listen always to the views of others and to find one's own convictions.
4. The Kingdom of God - 'To Witness Humbly' - to acknowledge the spiritual nature of man, to practise the Christian way of life, and to help the truth to prevail.

Point 3 is the magazine of Toc H. It takes its name from the 3rd Point of the Toc H Compass, 'Fairmindedness'. It seeks to inform, to encourage and to stimulate.

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The opinions expressed are those of the individual concerned and not necessarily the views of the Editor or of Toc H.

The Editors reserve the right to cut or précis articles and letters submitted unless the writer specifically stipulates otherwise.

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The historic vote at the Special Council meeting on June 29th 2002

member doing so has to pay his or her own costs, but it is hoped branches will be keen to have a representative present and may wish to fund that person.

'Regions'

In proposing the resolution at the Central Council meeting, Jeremy Topham outlined the new structure. He went on to assure Councillors that there is nothing in these proposals to prevent Toc H creating intermediate tiers - such as regions, districts or whatever, but they will have no part in the formal legal framework. Later in the meeting, in response to a question from David Coleman, Geoff Smith explained that the question of what would be the best form of intermediate structure had yet to be addressed. One idea being

considered is that of county branches. It would be a matter the new NMC would be looking at.

Branch regulations

Part of the new pattern is that all members and branches have a direct link to, and are directly accountable to, the centre. Branches will be required to sign up to a set of 'branch regulations'. There has been a process of consultation about these since January, and over 20% of branch members have attended consultation meetings. During the Council meeting John Mitchell reported what concerns had been raised, and explained that on all the major concerns the CEC had amended the regulation concerned. The new regulations are being issued shortly.

WELCOME TO FIVE NEW STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Francis Braganza, Talbot Centre Development Officer. Francis hopes to be able to join us in mid-August, if not earlier. He lives in Didsbury, Manchester, and will work from home.

Roger Cattermoul, Warden at the Rickmansworth Campsite. Roger has been acting as an honorary warden for some time, but is now on the staff to help promote the centre.

Anisah Islam, Families under Pressure Development Officer, East London.

Margaret Williams, Friendship Circle Development Officer, N.Wales. Margaret

has already been a volunteer with Friendship Circles for some time. In due course she will be based at Rhyl.

Pennie Kennedy, who joined us in July as a part-time Families under Pressure Development Officer, High Wycombe.



Francis Braganza (left) and Roger Cattermoul at a recent Staff Gathering in Birmingham

Welcome to our New Members

Stephen Bishop - S.E.Region

Audrey Yates - Ashby de la Zouch (W)

Michael Tucker - N.Wales and N.West Region

Douglas Dickens - Buckingham

Nicolas Gardner - Harpenden

Letitia Davis-Jones - Llandrindod Wells

Guest Members

Annie Kirby - S.E.Region

Telling your Tale - No 2.

In the second article in this series, the Editor reports on a conversation with Ged Bates, a staff member in Birmingham between 1975 and 1978.

'Hello gorgeous', 'Do you come here often?' and 'Can I buy you a drink?' no doubt rank high on the scale of the very first words exchanged between people who later married. 'Hallo, do you belong to the IRA?' would be rarer, but that is how Ged met his wife Kate. Kate had applied to be a volunteer on a children's playscheme with B.A.O.R., and the contract Toc H had with the Army required Toc H to vet all volunteers personally. Ged, as a staff member, went off to vet Kate - and they are now enjoying their twenty-third year of marriage, living in Penarth, S. Wales.

I mailed Ged a few months ago, to see whether I might talk to him about his time in Toc H, and what impact it had had on him. He replied 'Don't underestimate the influence that being involved with Toc H had on me. I was in the car recently, switched the radio on and it was Desert Island Discs. The subject of the programme was a pop star (I can't remember the name - not my sort of music) and he cited a couple of life changing moments. I thought to myself - what moment really changed my life? I immediately thought of the moment when I saw the Toc H projects poster on the university common room notice board and applied - met lots of inspirational people - worked in very challenging situations - grew in self-confidence - got into Probation work - strengthened my Christian faith at a time of disillusionment - and of course through Toc H I met Kate the most special person in my life... the list goes on'.

Ged's first project was at Hamilton Lodge, working with people with learning difficulties. He recalls it as 'the most amazing week of my life' - he loved the group camaraderie,

and the whole event opened up for him 'a new understanding of people'. The Christian aspect of Toc H was, he said, 'fertile soil for me' coming, as he did, from a traditional Roman Catholic family. He went to a R.C. school, where he even learned Latin, and his faith was the foundation of his life.

'Toc H made the whole jigsaw fit together'

'So how has that faith changed?', I asked. 'Very little' he replied. He felt his personal creed was largely the same now as in those days. His church allegiance has changed though - he is now an active Anglican, rather than a Roman Catholic and was a lay Youth Chaplain in Cardiff diocese for a time. He has also advised the Bishop of Llandaff about the selection and training of ordinands. The impact Toc H did have, he says, was to encourage him to live out his faith. The time spent in small groups (and he reminded me how that echoed the early Church) working together for their neighbours seemed to help 'the whole jigsaw fit together'. 'Toc H made all that happen without being overly religious' and for him that was right at the time. He went on 'The most important thing about me is what I believe, but ultimately faith has to transform what you are and how you live. Toc H was the context in which it all gelled together for me, and I saw how the real message of the gospels made sense - perfect sense.'

'You found yourself in a context where the natural thing to be was your best'

After graduating in Social Administration Ged worked for Toc H for 3 years from 1975. Based in Moseley, working alongside George Lee, he set up weekend

projects, supported the Toc H Community House in Moseley, and had a high level of involvement in the German playschemes. He speaks warmly of people he met and the atmosphere they generated: 'You found yourself in a context where the natural thing to be was your best and so often you were surprised at what could be achieved!'. He remembers many project volunteers who were determined to work hard and pull their weight but also to enjoy life and have a good time.

Ged then decided to enter Probation work - and that has been his career ever since. He is now an H.M. Inspector of Probation. He spends part of his time working from home in Penarth. Kate, meanwhile, is headteacher of a church primary school in central Cardiff and they have two teenage children. Ged works part of his time at the Home Office in London, and also has weeks away on inspections across the country. He attributes his initial interest in probation work to Toc H as well. He met probation officers when they asked Toc H to help provide opportunities for offenders on Community Service Orders, and became an ancillary worker on these schemes. He also recognises the impact made on him by meeting, on Toc H projects, 'Borstal trainees' as they were then called.

Ged believes Toc H has coloured his whole professional approach over the years. He also blames Toc H for the topic he chose when he did his PhD. That topic was the value of adventurous outdoor activities for young offenders - and he is very conscious that that related directly to his contacts with the Birmingham Outward Group in the 1970s.

He summed up his time with Toc H as 'a period of extreme challenges which demanded intense personal commitment. Toc H for me was, as Tubby once described it, a University of life'

The WORLD CUP JIMMY SAVILE DANCEATHON

The 16th Annual Jimmy Savile Dancethon took place at Cuffley in May, and it had a decidedly festive football theme. Organised by the Lea Valley Project group, the hosts entertained around 45 mentally and physically handicapped guests from the Geddings centre in Hoddesdon and Unity 70 in North London.

The project was led by Sally Simms and Karen Jaques who, with several other volunteers, stayed for the entire weekend to get things organised. The day of the event saw additional help from members of the Lea Valley Project group and other friends of the event which has been hosted in Cuffley for 12 years.

With World Cup fever brewing it was decided that this year's event should have a soccer theme. The volunteers spent Saturday festooning the hall with home made bunting, flags of several nations, and a huge home painted frieze of football supporters which dominated one wall. Tables were bedecked with Union flags (there was definitely an element of Jubilee Street Party mixed in with the World Cup theme). A large goal net



Two of the guests all dressed up for the occasion.

made from fishing net (smuggled in from Ireland by a Toc H member who shall remain nameless!) was strung between two pillars.

The guests and their helpers began arriving around 6 o'clock on Saturday and by half past were dancing away to a disco provided by two former members of Cuffley Youth Club. All volunteers and helpers were dressed in football shirts. A buffet meal was

served at 7 p.m. (though some guests were seen tucking in from the moment they arrived) followed by a raffle in which 12 prizes were awarded. Guests of honour were the Mayor and Mayoress of Broxbourne - at their first charity event since taking up their posts - and their son David, who is himself slightly disabled.

Aside from the expected dancing, the guests were seen kicking oversized balloons around the hall, and some of the young ladies seemed particularly entranced by DJ Dominic Cain.

By 9.30 p.m. it was time to leave though most of the guests were prepared to dance all night. The project team and their helpers though were somewhat exhausted and once the doors were closed they settled down for a fish'n'chip supper before the clean up began.

The hall has already been booked for next year's event and volunteers are urged to sign up for this wonderfully rewarding project. We may even try to get our patron - Jimmy Savile - personally involved next year, as he was in the earliest days of the event.

Steve Smith

IN BRIEF • IN BRIEF • IN BRIEF

Stockport Branch report a very successful weekend project when six young volunteers worked at the Children's Camp at Adlington. Two were from Poland, one from Zimbabwe and three were British. All worked hard together and enjoyed their stay in the lovely Cheshire countryside - well led by experienced leaders Stephanie Roch and Andrew Jones.

Crewkerne Branch organised a very successful Jubilee Tea Party for 60 senior citizens. This memorable event ended with Toc H's version of 'The last night of the Proms' with everyone singing the familiar patriotic songs and waving Union flags. A very good time was had by all!

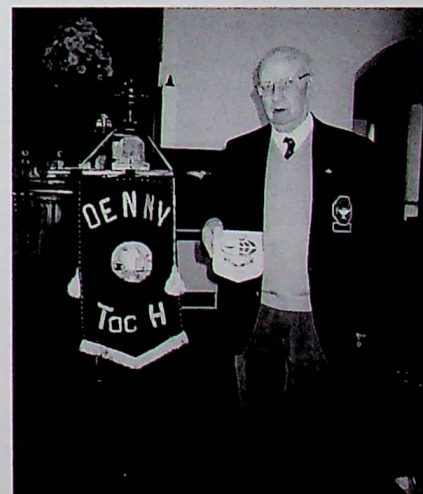
Parkhurst Branch (IoW) had another successful Friendship day in June - despite the fact that it clashed with England v Denmark at the World Cup. In the warm sunshine early shoppers came in good numbers to enjoy the stalls, raffle, tombola bric-a-brac and other delights, but gradually 'the town

became very quiet 'says Jackie Ramage, 'eerie in fact'. However, the event still raised a very satisfactory £250

On Saturday 1st June, the first day of the Jubilee weekend, **Ripon and District Branch** held a very successful Jubilee party in Harrogate Road Methodist Church Hall. A full buffet tea and entertainment was enjoyed by nearly 80 people. The branch thank all those members and friends who worked so hard and willingly to make it so enjoyable.

A group of eleven members enjoyed a day 'with a camera' at **Brixworth Park** in May. Sally Simms gave an introduction to the work Toc H had done on this huge project, and then Steve Smith gave some hints about taking better photographs. The group then went their various ways for three hours to snap away - and by teatime were looking at the results, and hearing Steve's helpful comments. A different and enjoyable day.

At the annual rededication service for **Denny Branch**, Jim Beveridge was presented with a plaque and book token for his long service to the Branch. Jim is 87 but, as secretary Agnes Peattie says, 'he still keeps us all on our toes!' Jim was also Regional Chairman for Scotland for a number of years.



CHAPLAINS CHALLENGE

To celebrate his 70th birthday, David Monkton (Chaplain, Nottingham City Branch) decided on an unusual act of thanksgiving. He got out his bike and, during the month, cycled 70 miles for charity. Proceeds were divided between the Nottingham Hospice, NCH and UNICEF (Children's Fund). The result, David tells us, was 'a staggering £2,1000'. Nottingham City Branch and other branches in the District gave generous (as well as moral) support, as did many churches, including one in the Shetland Isles where David was Methodist Minister from 1977 to 1988.



THE 'TUBBY CLAYTON' MINIBUS

'It is not quite the end of the road for the Tubby Clayton minibus' reports Tony Cock of Hythe Branch. This was the last of 4 minibuses the Branch had run for the benefit of local charities - but an ageing vehicle, rising costs and a drop in demand led the Branch to decide the end had come for this remarkable piece of community service. However, it is not the end for the bus because it is being transferred - in full working order - to the Rickmansworth Campsite where it will still be used for Toc H work. Tony recently attended a service at the Methodist Church when a presentation was made to him, representing Toc H, to thank Toc H for the 20 years plus in which it had provided this valuable service. Sadly Hythe Branch feel they too must close, due to low numbers, but they hope they will be remembered for setting up the town-twinning arrangements between Hythe and Poperinge. Tony continues to serve on that committee.

NEW EDITOR FOR POINT 3

I am rapidly approaching 65 and retirement! Because of that this is the last issue of Point 3 which I shall be editing. I would like to take this chance to thank all who have helped keep the magazine going by sending in contributions (and to those whose prose I have shamelessly cut, I offer thanks for their forbearance). I thank Ken Prideaux-Brune for overseeing the Letters column. I thank Graeme and Denise, designers at HB&A, who have been patient with my demands, and have been very adept at getting a quart into a pint pot (or, to be more Eurocentric, a litre into a half-litre liquid container). I wish my successor as much enjoyment as I have had in the production of the magazine.



The new Editor will be Toc H's public relations advisor **Sue Coffey**, who has already been working with staff and volunteers for some time. Sue is a former journalist who runs her own business from Yorkshire. She has also worked with community organisations and for the Bradford Diocesan Board of Education.

Sue says: "Point 3 is a fantastic way of communicating with Toc H members, and I'm really looking forward to the challenge. I shall hope to be able to tap into all the goodwill people feel toward Point 3."

NB. Contributions should now be sent to Sue Coffey at Zymo, Business and Innovation Centre, Angel Way, Bradford BD7 1BX or Email: sue@zymo.co.uk

John Mitchell.

NEW WORK IN CHESHIRE

A bungalow centre for the lonely and isolated has just been opened on one of Europe's largest housing estates. It is on the Castlefields estate at Runcorn, where Toc H has been working for several years through a Families under Pressure programme.

Jo Eaton, new National Development Officer for Friendship Circles, explains: "We're seeing a need for small, unthreatening centres where people can call in for companionship, share skills and ideas, and volunteer, without having to join a regular class or make an appointment. The bungalow is cosy and comfortable, like a home from home. We are committed to working with communities under pressure and many of the people on the Castlefields estate are desperately in need of an ear to listen and sometimes a shoulder to cry on. There are no shops nearby, precious few facilities on the estate, and high rates of unemployment, drug abuse and crime. If this works, we'll look to open others. We want to provide for a wide range of needs from those who are lonely to youngsters needing homework clubs."

The bungalow is open during the week and project manager Linda Hosty works with a team of volunteers including Norma and Vin Buckley and their family who were moving forces in establishing the centre. They have been Toc H volunteers for seven years. The bungalow has been partly funded by a grant of £45,000 from the Single Regeneration Budget and £35,000 from Toc H.



The Mayor of Halton, Glynn Redican, with Norma Buckley at the opening of the bungalow

TRIBUTES

Ruby Relf, who died in June in her 94th year, met Toc H in the Forces during the 2nd World War, when staff member Alice Welford formed a group in the camp where Ruby was serving. Ruby rose to the rank of Sergeant Major and, beyond the call of duty, devoted herself to the support and welfare of the young women coming into the Army. For that voluntary work she was awarded the M.B.E.

Ruby joined the staff of the Toc H Women's Association shortly after the War, and spent periods in several parts of the British Isles until she finally settled in Tunbridge Wells while working in the South East Region. Delighting in the fact that in Tunbridge Wells, and later in life in Worthing, she had her own home after many years of living in rented accommodation, she became a very welcoming hostess and a great many people enjoyed her hospitality. When she retired in 1974 she became a Samaritan and was involved in considerable voluntary work in the town. She was an expert needlewoman and spent many busy hours at the Seven Springs Cheshire Home mending and altering for residents who were unable to tackle their own repairs. She was also involved in the refurbishment of the Upper Room at Talbot House in time for the 65th birthday celebrations of Toc H, and personally made the new huge altar hangings.

Enthusiastic and energetic, Ruby was always willing to give vigorous support to any good cause in which she truly believed. She was a much loved member of Toc H, and will be greatly missed by her many friends and associates.

Edward Mordecai, who died in May, had been a loyal member of the former Harrogate Branch and then became a Regional member. During the 2nd World War he was in the Parachute Regiment and took part in the landings at Arnhem. He had long been a member of the Royal British Legion and Legion members, some

of them former paras, attended his funeral which included the Last Post. **RS**

Joan Willis, who died in May aged 79, was a loyal and dedicated member of the Gloucester Branch for 18 years. Joan regarded Toc H as her second family and during her years of membership held various offices. For the past eight years she was Pilot and Vice-Chairman, and discharged the duties of both offices efficiently and with compassion. We shall miss dear Joan very much. **DN**

David Harris, who died in June aged 70, was a member between 1963 and 1984, in Martock and South Petherton Branches (until they closed) and served for a time as secretary at South Petherton. He then became a builder. David was a paraplegic for 46 years after an accident, but this did not deter his enthusiasm for all Toc H activities. **JH**

William (Bill) Charlesworth was born of a farming family in 1925. He met Toc H via the West Bridgford Branch, and then moved to Nottingham City Branch in the 1960s, and was for many years a committed member.

His parents regularly invited the Branch to the farm for an evening meal and walk round the farm. Bill was also an enthusiastic supporter of Alison House. He would often set out on a Friday night with a friend and a van full of tools and mowers, whatever the weather, and stay at Alison House until Sunday night tackling whatever jobs were needed - and if the house was full he took his caravan. Bill will be greatly missed by members and friends alike.

William Norman Goodwin, who died in May aged 94, joined Toc H shortly after leaving grammar school in Sheffield at 16. During his time in Toc H he served in all capacities, eventually becoming District Chairman and Treasurer, as well as Treasurer to Fareham Branch until it closed two years ago. After early years in the cutlery industry, Bill became a probation officer and was Senior Probation Officer in his time in Fareham and Gosport. Bill was very definite in his views and enjoyed a discussion, particularly on political matters, which he pursued with typical Yorkshire relish. He will be missed by his many friends, but 'we will remember him'. **CAF**

OBITUARIES

In April

Martha Fenton	Rawmarsh
William Charlesworth	Nottingham City

In May

Edward Mordecai	N.E.Region
Joan Willis	Gloucester
Arthur Greenyer	Kennington
Douglas Kingsland	S.E.Region

In June

Doris Woods	S.E.Region
Ruby Relf	S.E.Region
Lewis Robinson	Troon
William Willis	W.Mids and
	S.Wales Region
William Goodwin	S.Region

Not previously recorded

Lilian Slater	Wakefield
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LETTERS

BEDS APPEAL

May we, on behalf of the British 'Friends of Talbot House', say a very big 'thank you' for the wonderful response we have received to our appeal for new beds. At least six individuals or Toc H branches have each sent enough money for a bed, and we have also received other donations totalling over £1,000 as well as recruiting more 'Friends'

We are very grateful for your generosity and support and hope that many of you will be able to visit the Old House and experience the comfort of the new beds for yourselves.

Connie Pring and Greta Lynn
(Joint Secs - 'The Friends')

NOTICE BOARD

Coming soon

The 4th Toc H London Walk

HORRORS, HOLIES & HAWKUBITES

Sat 7th Sept 2002

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

What? Visit 20 sites, each linked to an interesting or odd event/person from London's rich history

Explore: Where rebels were slain, cats sacrificed, the GIANT PIE stolen, and much more

Choices:

- WALK the course for FUN
- Be SPONSORED for a charity of your choice
- RACE (teams of 3 or 4) for PRIZES including 4 tickets to *The Royal Albert Hall* and others

Entrance Fee: £5

Those sponsored in aid of TOC H and Under 16's can ENTER FREE

For DETAILS and ENTRY FORMS contact:

John Mitchell, 94 Burcott Lane, Bierton, Aylesbury HP22 5AS

Tel: 01296 435929

Email: johnemitchell@talk21.com

POPERINGE TRIPS THIS YEAR



Hop Fest : September 12th to 16th.

This is a very special trip for those who enjoy pageantry and local festivals. Activities start on the Friday evening with the crowning of the Hop Queen, dancing and celebrations. Next day there is a trip to Brugge and then another fun evening back in Poperinge

with bands from towns twinned with Poperinge. On Sunday there is the Hop Pickers Stripping Competition (!) and then a three hour procession of floats. And more. **Places available at £170.**

'Remembrance': 9th to 12th November.

This is a very important time in Belgium. Join the Toc H group and witness it, with hundreds of people from all over Europe and the Commonwealth. Toc H has been asked to prepare a service on the Sunday evening at St. George's Church, Ieper. The group will also join in the Sunday morning service, and be present at the Menen Gate for the Last Post. **Cost: £155.**

'World Chain of Light': 9th to 13th December.

The Chain starts in Birmingham this year. At the same time you can come to Talbot House and join with the two Poperinge branches in celebrating the event and maintaining a 24 hour vigil in the Upper Room. A unique Toc H experience. **Cost: £155.**

For applications and further details apply to John Burgess, 66 Park Meadow, Hatfield, Herts, AL9 5HB

Tel: 01707 264949 Email: juburgess@btclick.com

THIS YEAR AT THE CENOTAPH

Once again the Royal British Legion has invited Toc H to have a contingent in the Remembrance Sunday Parade in London. The date is November 10th.

Those participating have to be present by 10-10 a.m. on Horse Guards Parade and will be able to disperse about 12-30 p.m.

If any member or volunteer wishes to be part of this, you must notify John Mitchell, BY 27th September AT THE LATEST - later applications cannot be accepted. John's address is 94 Burcott Lane, Bierton, Aylesbury, HP22 5AS

Email: johnemitchell@talk21.com - or phone: 01296 4359329.

CLOW BECK CHILDREN'S FARM

The concept behind this new project is to show children that in contrast to the emphasis on a technology-driven existence, there is an equally acceptable lifestyle based on simple practical solutions to the problems of everyday living; the children will learn the fundamentals of sustainable living.

The first task is to build the farm - from low environmental impact materials, demonstrating exciting alternative building methods, such as using straw bales. For more details of straw bale use visit www.strawbalefutures.org.uk

The start date has had to be put back to 25th August. This means that the first phase of work - building the farm - will be ongoing until about Christmas. The need for volunteers is even greater now. Can you help for a week or more than a week? Can you commend the idea to anyone else who can help?

If you can help contact John and Suzanne Dunwell on 01677 425152 - Email TOCHJD@aol.com

TO VOLUNTEERS ON-LINE

The new E-Bulletin goes to all volunteers who are on-line. If you are one of these and have changed your Email address, please let us know. Every time there is an issue a number of messages are returned due to changes of Email addresses. Also, if you don't receive it but would like to, do let us know. Thanks.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS and COINS

Please do not forget we still need your used postage stamps and old English and foreign coins. They can be turned into money for Toc H work.

Please get them to Tony Cock, either via Central Services OR via other Toc H events. It does NOT make sense to post them.